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April 2006

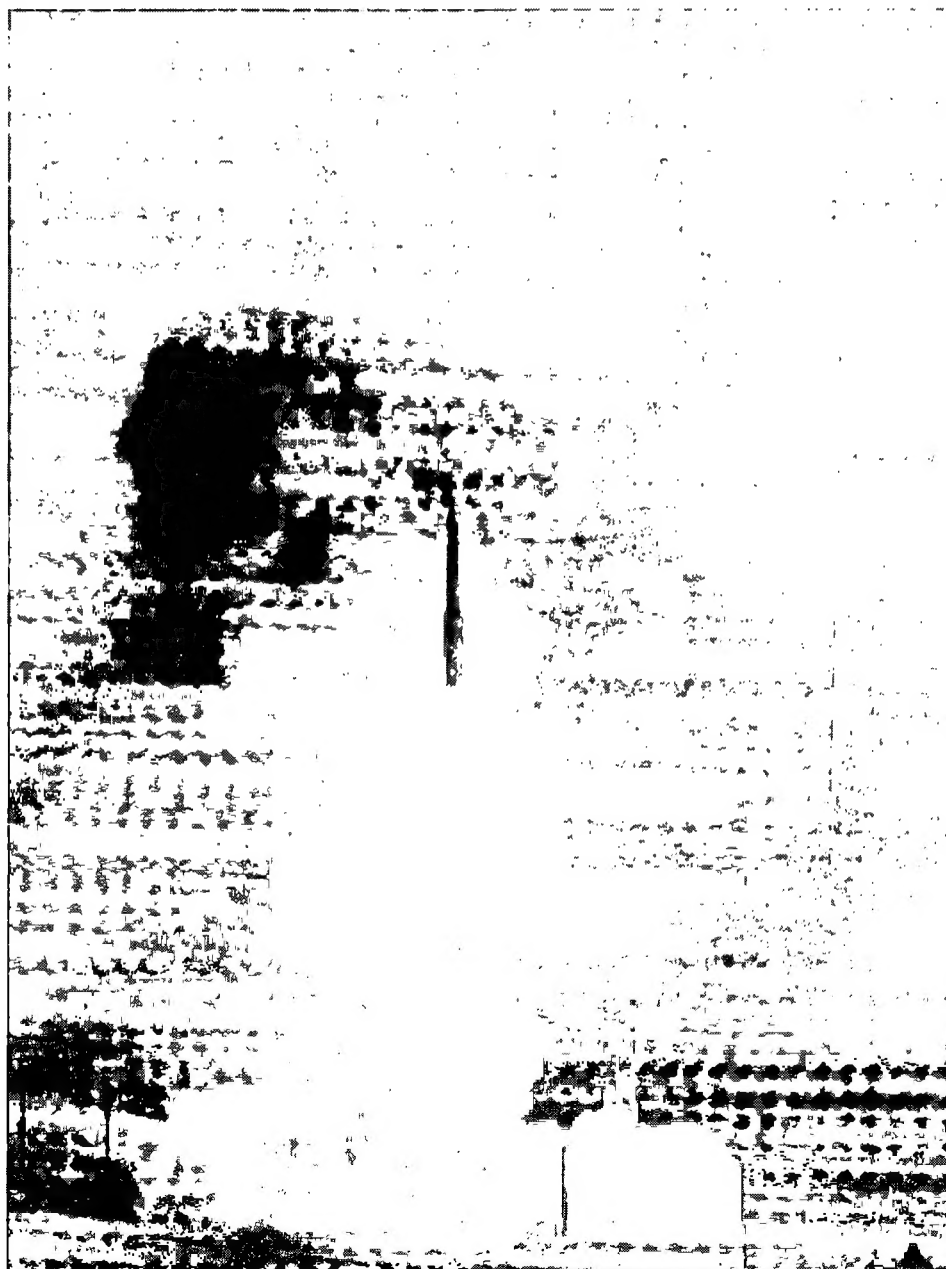
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Mutual UFO Network

UFO JOURNAL



A Minuteman I missile is test launched at Vandenberg AFB in California in August, 1973. The role of UFOs in "shutdowns" of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles is explored by Robert Hastings, beginning on page 3.

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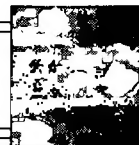
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Director's Message

By John F. Schuessler

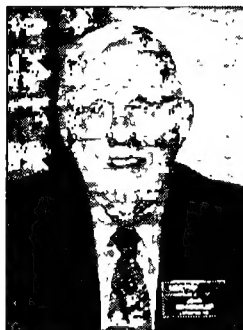


Membership Contest Reminder

The two MUFON membership contests will end on May 30, 2006, and the winners will be honored guests at the 2006 MUFON International UFO Symposium in Denver.

One contest is for State Directors, Assistant State Directors, and State Section Directors only, and the other contest is for the general membership.

Winners will receive air fare within the Continental United States, plus symposium fee and hotel room paid. All of the contest details may be found on the MUFON website at www.mufon.com and were also published in the February *Journal*.



John Schuessler

July Evidence-based Symposium

Linda Moulton Howe will return to Denver to speak at the July 14-16

MUFON UFO symposium. Linda is an award winning author, TV producer, speaker, investigative reporter, and science, environment and earth mysteries news website (www.earthfiles.com) director. Linda's fearless, hard-hitting style of investigative reporting will bring strong new UFO evidence that will keep symposium attendees on the edge of their seats.

By popular demand, award-winning author **Marshall Vian Summers** will join the list of symposium speakers to bring his extensive body of work on the "Alien Agenda" to our audience. He says: "Despite over 50 years of heroic research and the extensive evidence that it has produced to show that we are being visited, we still know little or nothing about the nature, intentions and overall purpose of the visitors." His book *Allies of Humanity* is a best-seller.

Ted Phillips, the best-known investigator of UFO trace effects in the world, will present a mixture of old and new trace evidence cases. His recent investigative work on the Slovakian

(Continued on page 22)

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MUFON's mission is the scientific study of UFOs for the benefit of humanity through investigation, research, & education.

UFOs observed at ICBM sites and nuclear weapons storage areas

By Robert L. Hastings

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Although the vast majority of Americans are completely unaware of its existence, the UFO/Nukes connection is now remarkably well-documented.

Air Force, FBI, and CIA files declassified via the Freedom of Information Act establish a convincing, ongoing pattern of UFO activity at U.S. nuclear weapons sites extending back to December, 1948.

For more than 30 years I have been interviewing former and retired U.S. Air Force personnel regarding their direct or indirect involvement in nuclear weapons-related UFO sighting incidents.

These individuals—from retired colonels to former airmen—report extraordinary encounters which have obvious national security implications.

In fact, taken to their logical conclusion, the reported incidents have *planetary* implications, given the horrific consequences that would result from a full-scale, global nuclear war.

At the time of their experiences, my former/retired USAF sources held positions ranging from nuclear missile launch and targeting officers, to missile maintenance personnel, to missile security police.

The incidents described occurred at Malmstrom, Minot, F.E. Warren, Ellsworth, Vandenberg, and Walker AFBs between 1963 and 1996. Other sources were stationed at Wurtsmith and Loring AFBs, where B-52 nuclear bombers were based during the Cold War era.

To date, I have interviewed more than 50 individuals who were involved in various UFO-related incidents at Strategic Air Command bases or remote sites. I have selected the statements of 20 of those persons for presentation here.

About the author

Hastings' interest in UFOs and ICBMs began early. In 1967, his father, USAF SMSgt. Robert E. Hastings, was stationed at Malmstrom AFB, MT, during a period of high UFO activity at the base's ICBM sites. "A series of events sparked my life-long interest in the UFO/Nukes Connection," says the author.

Hastings received a BFA in Photography from Ohio University in 1972, and later re-trained in the field of Electron Microscopy. He worked as a laboratory analyst for Philips Semiconductors, in Albuquerque, NM, from 1988-2002.

He has been researching military-related UFO sightings since 1973, and has been invited to present his findings at over 500 colleges and universities since 1981. His program, *UFOs: The Hidden History*, primarily concerns the UFO/Nukes Connection.

Hastings is now semi-retired and lives in Surfside Beach, SC.

An expanded discussion of this material will appear in my forthcoming book, *The UFO/Nukes Connection*.

The testimony which follows is admittedly anecdotal evidence. Nevertheless, it is offered—often reluctantly—by persons who were entrusted by the U.S. government with the operation or security of weapons of mass destruction.

As such, each source was subjected to—and passed—rigorous background checks and personality tests designed to ascertain, with a reasonable degree of certainty, their psychological stability and reliability.

For the moment, the international tensions of the Cold War era have receded. Consequently, the U.S. and Russia are currently downsizing their nuclear arsenals.

Nevertheless, vast numbers of nukes



still exist and may be unleashed at a moment's notice. Therefore, these weapons remain a potential threat to the future of the human race.

The events described in this article leave little doubt that our nuclear weapons program is an ongoing source of interest to *someone* possessing vastly superior technology.

Significantly, the reported UFO activity occasionally transcends mere surveillance and appears to involve direct

and unambiguous interference with our strategic weapons systems.

Considering these and similar accounts—too numerous and credible to dismiss—I would argue, as others have before me, that the heightened presence of the UFO phenomenon since the end of World War II is a direct consequence of the advent of the Nuclear Age.

To suggest that this is the *only* explanation for widespread UFO sightings during our own era would be presumptuous, simplistic, and undoubtedly inaccurate.

Nevertheless, I believe that the nuclear weapons-related incidents are integral to an understanding of the mystery at hand.

Anyone wishing to contact me may do so at hastings444@att.net.

My Sources:

Malmstrom AFB, Montana

(1966-67):

1st Lt. Robert C. Jamison—Former USAF Minuteman ICBM targeting officer (Combat Targeting Team Commander), 341st Missile Maintenance Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT:

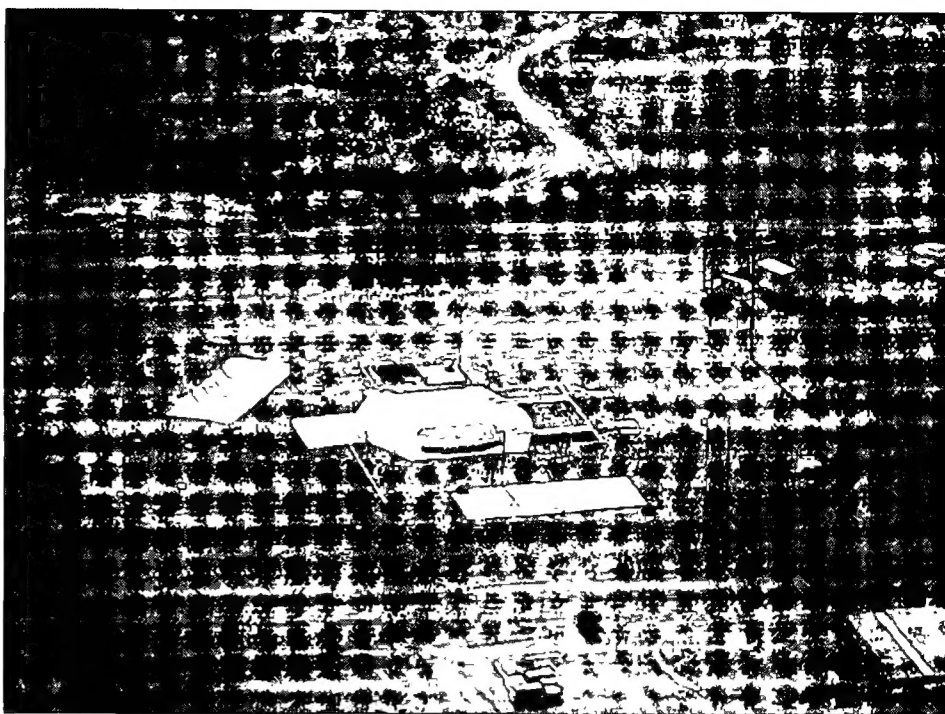
Jamison states that he assisted in the re-start of an entire “flight” of ten Minuteman ICBMs which had simultaneously and inexplicably shut down immediately after a UFO was sighted in their vicinity by Air Force Security Police.

Jamison is certain that the incident occurred at one of the missile flights located near Lewistown, MT, perhaps Oscar Flight. This event probably occurred on the night of March 24/25, 1967, based on Jamison’s portrayal of related events.

Jamison said that while his and other teams were preparing to respond to the stricken flight, they were ordered—as a precaution—to remain at Malmstrom until all UFO reports from the field had ceased.

He further states that his team received a special briefing prior to being dispatched, during which it was directed to immediately report any UFO sighted while traveling to or from the missile field.

In the event that a UFO appeared at one of the missile silos during the re-start procedure, the team was directed to enter the silo’s personnel hatch, and



Aerial view of an ICBM site.

remain underground until the UFO had left the vicinity.

According to Jamison, the Air Police guard accompanying the team was to remain outside and relay information about the UFO to the base Command Post. Jamison’s own team re-started three or four missiles, but did not observe any unusual aerial activity.

Jamison said that while he was at the missile maintenance hangar, waiting to be dispatched to the field, he overheard two-way radio communications at the temporary Command Post relating to another UFO having been sighted on the ground in a canyon near the town of Belt.

He states that he recalls hearing that a top commander—either Malmstrom’s base commander or the 341st Strategic Missile Wing commander—was on-site with other personnel.

Based on these recollections, it appears that Jamison is describing the well-documented Belt, MT, UFO sighting of March 24/25, 1967.

Jamison said that immediately after the missile shutdown incident, for a period of approximately two weeks, his team received a special UFO briefing identical to the one described above before being dispatched to the field.

Jamison said that approximately two weeks after the full-flight missile shut-

down his team responded to another, partial shutdown involving four or five ICBMs.

Prior to being dispatched, Jamison’s team received a report that the missile failures had occurred immediately after a UFO was sighted over the flight’s Launch Control Facility.

Jamison recalls that this incident took place at a flight located south or southwest of Great Falls, possibly India Flight, and during daylight hours.

Jamison said that he had subsequently spoken with several individuals, mostly missile security guards, who had witnessed various UFO-related incidents. He reports that they were “visibly shaken” by their experiences.

Comment: At least five other former or retired USAF personnel—all Minuteman missile launch officers stationed at Malmstrom AFB in 1967—have previously divulged their knowledge of UFO involvement in two separate, large-scale missile shutdown incidents.

One of these individuals, former Deputy Missile Combat Crew Commander Robert Salas, has extensively investigated these events, together with researcher Jim Klotz.

Their revealing summary of the March 1967 incidents may be found at <http://www.cufon.org/cufon/malmstrom/malm1.htm>. See also the

review of their book, *Faded Giant*, in the May, 2005, issue of the *Journal*.

Salas and Klotz discuss the Air Force's formal denial of UFO-involvement in the one officially-acknowledged, full-flight missile shutdown incident at Malmstrom AFB—at Echo Flight—despite the missile launch officers' testimony to the contrary.

The official disavowal is found in the 341st Strategic Missile Wing's "unit history."

Significantly, the unit historian, David Gamble, told Klotz that while compiling material for the official history he had learned of reports of UFO activity within Malmstrom's missile fields. When he made inquiries, Gamble received "no cooperation" from those in-the-know.

He further said that written changes regarding "the UFO aspect of the missile shutdown incident" had been made by superiors. The final version of the unit history states, "Rumors of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) around the area of Echo Flight during the time of the fault were disproven."

If Jamison's recollections are correct, and he did indeed respond to a large-scale missile shutdown at Oscar Flight on the same date as the well-documented Belt UFO sighting, then the date proposed for the Oscar event by Salas and Klotz—March 16, 1967—would seem to be in error.

Salas has now acknowledged this possibility; however, Klotz remains skeptical about the alternate date.

Prior to my posting the Jamison-related material on the NICAP and NCP websites, I sent it to Klotz for his review.

He responded, "I think that while witnesses' memories of 'events' tend to be pretty clear, memories of dates tend to be less accurate. I am a document-driven guy, and I'd like to see some documentary evidence of multiple events.

"Lacking this, I only wish to keep open the idea that memories may be of a 'single' UFO-related missile shutdown event at Malmstrom. Certainly the indications from witness testimony are that multiple events may well have occurred."

For the record: I too would like to

see *unaltered* documents relating to the shutdown events.

In the early 1980s, I attempted to access, via the Freedom of Information Act, Office of Special Investigations (OSI) files relating to UFO sightings at Malmstrom's ICBM sites, only to be told that all such documents had already been declassified.

However, multiple source testimony strongly suggests otherwise. I think David Gamble's comments above are telling.

In my opinion, the documents that might shed light on the true facts relating to the missile shutdowns will remain hidden indefinitely, whereas those supporting the official version of events, including unit histories, will sometimes be declassified.

I also sent my Jamison-related material to Bob Salas. He responded, "What is interesting to me is the briefing Jamison received about how to respond if they sighted a UFO while working in the field. This would be a further indication that there had been experiences with UFOs at [launch facilities] prior to Jamison going out to the sites. We have also received similar information from a source we are protecting at this time."

Salas continued, "I [now] think it is more likely that Oscar Flight went down on some date after the Echo Flight [shutdown] and that it could very well have been on the same day as the Belt sighting.

"One of the factors that lead me to that 'opinion' is the lack of comment about two flights going down in the [now-declassified] telex that went out, and in the unit history. If the two had gone down on the same day, that would have been mentioned.

"The reason, I think, Oscar wasn't mentioned later is because by then the Air Force wanted to keep a secrecy lid on it and avoid the possibility of a leak by the indication of a growing and continuing problem. That would have made quite some headlines in the press."

Salas concluded, "Remember, from all we have heard from the maintenance people we have interviewed, the rumors and comments [about UFO activity] were rampant. I personally received a call from an NCO after the Oscar shut-

downs practically begging me to come talk to him and others about the incident. Believe me, it was all over the base, and some of the troops were flat scared."

In conclusion, Jamison's statements are important because they indicate that the Air Force was fully aware of UFO involvement in at least two missile flight shutdown incidents *prior* to dispatching the missile maintenance teams to restart the ICBMs.

Specifically, according to Jamison, the 341st Missile Maintenance Squadron undertook certain precautions and formally implemented various procedures to protect the teams' safety while in the field. In this respect, his testimony is unprecedented.

Staff Sgt. Louis D. Kenneweg—Former Minuteman ICBM maintenance clerk, 341st Missile Maintenance Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT:

At the time of the 1967 missile shutdown incidents, Staff Sgt. Louis D. Kenneweg was assigned to the 341st Missile Maintenance Squadron (MIMS) at Malmstrom AFB.

His duties at the MIMS hangar included issuing Technical Order (T.O.) kits to other members of his squadron.

As Kenneweg explained, "Each of the repair teams would be required to take T.O.s in the truck with them. The kit included books or manuals that would contain technical information that the technicians could look up rather than rely on memory.

"There was also a check list in plastic sleeves, kind of like a pre-flight checklist for a pilot, that they would use before removing the warhead from the missile. Of course there was an awful lot of supervision when that occurred."

Although the date is uncertain, one night, around 11:45 PM, Kenneweg was driving to work when he noticed something unusual in the sky. "As I traveled down one of the roads parallel to the flightline," he said, "I saw something that I first thought was a private plane's lights, blinking.

"As I watched it get closer, I realized that it wasn't blinking at all, but zig-zagging. First here, then there, traveling too fast for a plane. Then looming over the flightline.

"I got up late, and I knew that I had

little time, but I stopped anyway. I opened the car door, got out, and focused on the lights. I watched it as long as I could, without being late to work.

"I remember saying to myself that this pilot was going to be in a lot of trouble, coming across the runway, or at least across the Air Force Base property.

"I don't remember it traveling that close to me, but I do remember the image of it disappearing in a low southerly trajectory over the [MIMS] hangar. Of course, it was much farther away than it appeared.

"At that point it wasn't 'blinking' anymore, but had more of a glow. It appeared as a bright light the size of the moon on a cloudy night, although I don't remember it being cloudy."

Upon arriving at the MIMS hangar, Kenneweg was confronted by a scene of high activity. "As I entered the hangar I noticed that there were numerous trucks being loaded," he said, "many more than I had ever seen all at the same time."

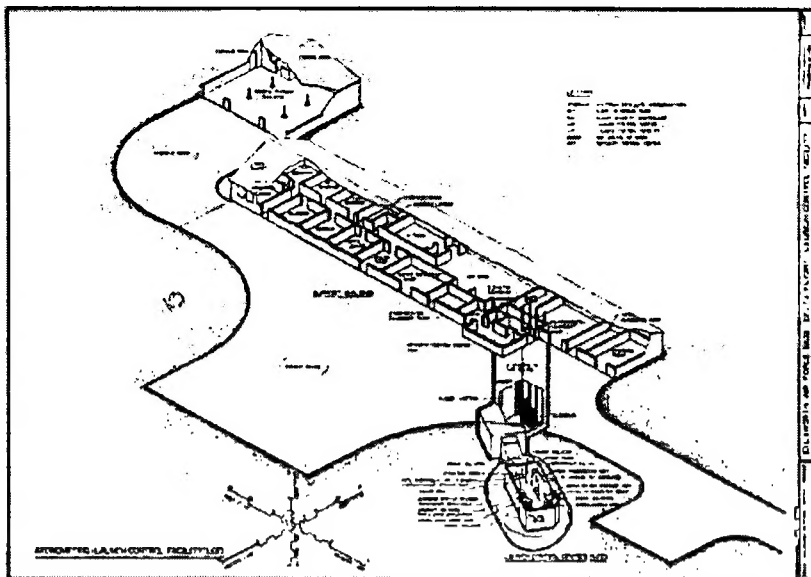
Still puzzled about the strange, zig-zagging light, Kenneweg walked toward the Air Police office, where APs were routinely assigned to accompany the maintenance teams into the missile fields—guarding their trucks and the silos once they opened the gates.

When he arrived he noticed an unusual level of activity there as well. Kenneweg asked the Air Police sergeant on duty whether the base had any helicopters up. The sergeant replied that the helicopters didn't have radar and didn't fly at night.

Kenneweg continued, "Back at the office, I issued almost all of the [T.O.] kits on the shelf. I remember saying to myself, 'I'm running out of kits, this is a busy night.'

"Now, I didn't check the sign-out sheet to see how many kits had been checked out before my shift, but while I was on duty I did recall that they were almost all checked out. As I count them off in my head today, and try to see them on the shelf, we had a wall with 3 shelves that would hold 25 or so."

Clearly, a lot of missiles were either undergoing routine maintenance and/or had gone off Strategic Alert for another reason—all at the same time.



Ellsworth AFB: Delta Flight, Launch Control Facility.

When the maintenance teams returned to the MIMS hangar—Kenneweg first thought that it had been some three hours later, but on reflection now believes that it was more than 24 hours later, during his next shift—one of the technicians hinted that something out of the ordinary had taken place in the missile field.

"One of the guys mentioned to me that some very weird things were going on that night," said Kenneweg. "It takes two guys to carry the T.O. kit, so there were other guys behind him, waiting in line to get checked in, and they were all nodding their heads in agreement.

"But this guy said that he couldn't talk about it right then. He said he would tell me all about it back at the barracks. Well, like I have said before, I was busy working [a second job] at the Red Lion Supper Club and didn't really have that serious sit-down conversation with that particular airman.

"But the barracks was buzzing. Stories about how when they got to the [missile silos] and found no damage, and how all the batteries were dead. I also heard a story that [UFOs] were seen on radar, then they were gone."

He continued, "Our missile sites each had a tertiary power system. The main power source was delivered by Montana Power: telephone poles, transformers, and wire.

"The second system was the diesel generators, and the third was the bat-

tery back-up within the silo itself.

"Numerous reports came back saying that they had found no damage to the fences, wires, transformers, microwave intrusion system, locks on the three-foot-thick concrete blast doors, or to the batteries.

"So, no evidence of damage from intruders or animals, lightning, or fire. Just three sources of power vanished, and the batteries were dead."

Kenneweg believes that the incident was not isolated. "As I recall," he said, "there were other nights where the guys would come back and look a little shaken, all within that same time-period."

Comment: Based on Kenneweg's description of his own UFO sighting, during which the object appeared to be near or over Malmstrom's flightline at one point, I have speculated that the UFO may have briefly maneuvered near the base's nuclear Weapons Storage Area (WSA), which is located just east of the main runway.

The WSA contains Minuteman missile nuclear warheads, known as Reentry Vehicles (RVs). A review of aerial photographs of Malmstrom, which show the WSA, coupled with an analysis of Kenneweg's probable position near the MIMS hangar, lead to this conjecture.

Regardless, another UFO sighting at the WSA some years later has been confirmed by two other sources.

(Continued in May Journal.)

Old military magazine recounts UFO chases

By Diane Harrison

The Australian UFO Research Network

While doing the run of our local secondhand book shops looking for UFO research material, Vivian, one of our younger researchers, came across a magazine called *Military Enthusiast*, Vol-5/No. 25 (1983 edition).

An article written by Salvador Mafe Huertas called "Ala 12 The Phantoms from Torrejon" on pages 21 to 25 is a military article which tells about the plane's placement in MACOM (AIR COMBAT COMMAND) of the Spanish Air force unit based at Torrejon.

Spanish researchers might like to speak to the two officers (below) who contributed information to the article—if they are still alive. The article states:

"Meanwhile the men of Ala 12 continue their rigorous training duties in order to be in top operational condition.

"And while the majority of alert scramble is actually performed by the F-1CEs of Ala 14, they have had their share of real and practice scrambles, including attempted intercepts of UFOs."

Article acknowledgments: Spanish AF Office of Information in Torrejon & Lt. Col. Carrasquilla and Lt. Frutos, Executive Officer and PAO of Ala 12.

Pratt's website papers now on MUFON.com

All of the UFO papers on the website of researcher/author Bob Pratt, who died Nov. 21, have been moved to the MUFON website, according to MUFON's director, John Schuessler: "Just look at the home page and click on Bob's picture area.

"Bob was a good friend, and his wife Faith knew that. When I offered to host his papers on the MUFON site as a memorial to Bob, she was pleased and gave her permission.

"We are now trying to get his URL transferred over so we can keep it active. Then when anyone does a search on his name they will get redirected to the MUFON site," explains Schuessler.

OMIFO becomes Mexico's unifying organization for UFO investigation

OMIFO (Organizacion Mexicana de Investigadores del Fenomeno Ovni) was formally announced in Chihuahua, Mexico, as a viable organization after its first anniversary on Feb. 18, 2006.

OMIFO is designed to be the new unified national organization of Mexico for the investigation, research, and study of what are referred to in Mexico as OVNI's (Objetos-No identificados Del Vuelo), Spanish for UFOs.

There are more than a dozen UFO investigative organizations operating within the 32 states that form the Republic of Mexico. OMIFO's creation is in response to the continuing increase in UFO phenomena in this very active area of the world.

Dramatic video footage, new government openness and cooperation with Mexican UFO scientific investigative groups, increases in abductions reports (and the willingness to report them), crop circles, chupacabra sightings, and crashed saucer reports have all greatly influenced Mexican UFO investigators in consolidating their dedicated efforts.

Greater communication, swift response, and the more efficient pooling of investigative and scientific resources are OMIFO's goals in solving one of the modern world's most elusive scientific mysteries.

The new OMIFO, using MUFON as a general organizational pattern, is largely the result of the hard work and efforts of MUFON Northern California State Director Ruben Uriarte.

Originally a native of Mexico, Uriarte, along with Carlos A. Guzman, MUFON Mexico Federal State Director, have established an important bridge between investigative groups in both Mexico & MUFON.

First goals for OMIFO include the appointment of officers, the creation of an Investigative Code of Ethics, a formal Investigator's Manual, the acceptance of an OMIFO logo, and the creation of a new OMIFO Internet website.

OMIFO's pace is rapid and ambitious, and its first formal UFO conference for the establishment of these initial goals has already been set for October, 2006, in Chihuahua, Mexico.

Appointed to the national positions are: Jeronimo Flores, director; Victor Camacho, assistant director; Martin Medina, treasurer; Gilberto Rivera, Northern regional director; Leopoldo Lazcano, Southern/Central regional director; and Ruben Uriarte, U.S. liaison-Northern California MUFON state director

The UFO researcher's own "UFO weather maps" was also presented by Uriarte to OMIFO, and was warmly received.

The creation of a single Mexican UFO sighting Internet data base, perhaps patterned after the NUFORC (National UFO Reporting Center, created by Peter Davenport) and/or the MUFON CMS (Case Management System) will also, it is hoped, incorporate more Mexican sighting reports into a unified North American & Central American UFO monthly situational map to be shared and used by the OMIFO/MUFON/NUFORC organizations.

Next it is hoped Canadian UFO data bases will also be incorporated into the UFO Weather Map.

MUFON International Director John Schuessler praised the formation of OMIFO, and pledged MUFON's cooperation.

Mexico has great potential for being in the forefront of UFO scientific research. Mexican culture and social attitudes are open to the UFO phenomenon, as well as to scientific methods of research.

The now famous Mexican Air Force UFO video over the Yucatan peninsula in early 2005 has demonstrated the openness of both the Mexican government & military in cooperation with UFO groups in attempting to understand the UFO problem.

Dr. Leo Sprinkle a pioneer

By Dwight Connelly

Dr. Leo Sprinkle is one of the true pioneers of modern ufology, having worked on some of the classic cases which provide the basis for current theories. But, like many researchers working in a university setting, he has paid a price for his involvement.

Sprinkle earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Colorado, and in 1961 the Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Missouri.

After working three years at the University of North Dakota, he moved to the University of Wyoming in 1964 as assistant professor of psychology.

Sprinkle says he began as a scoffer, but in 1949 a sighting of a daylight disc moved him to a position of "skeptical, but willing to consider the possibility that such things exist."

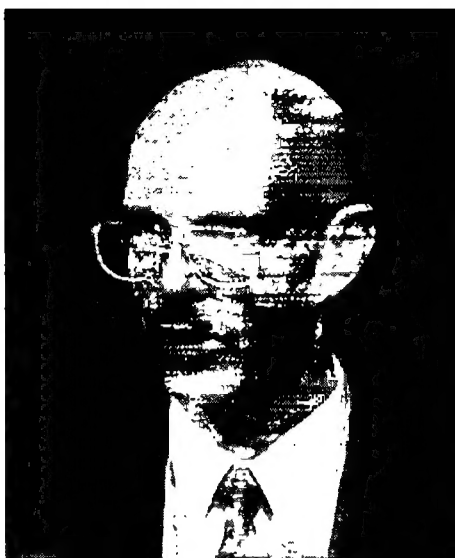
Then in 1956 he and his wife, Marilyn, had another sighting near Boulder, CO, and he became convinced that UFOs are real.

He joined the National Investigating Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) and became a consultant for the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO).

Not one to sit on the sidelines, he became involved in studies of abductees and contactees between 1964 and 1968 at a time when this element of ufology was still somewhat out of the mainstream, despite the general acceptance of the Betty and Barney Hill encounter.

In 1968 Sprinkle served as a psychological consultant to the infamous University of Colorado UFO Project, headed by Dr. Edward Condon.

Since this study was sponsored by the Air Force, and took place under the auspices of a university, it was not especially controversial, except for the fact that one of Sprinkle's assignments for the project involved the hypnosis of police officer Herbert Schirmer, who



Dr. Leo Sprinkle

reported a classic abduction.

Predictably, the project officers rejected the sighting. However, key elements from this very early abduction report would surface in future reports.

The next year, 1969, Sprinkle authored a paper based on a survey of members of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).

Between 1972 and 1979 he served on a "blue ribbon" panel set up by the *National Enquirer* to recommend the best UFO cases for an award which eventually could reach as high as a million dollars.

"Some UFO researchers were appalled at what they perceived to be an unholy marriage between 'pure' UFO investigation and 'impure' tabloid journalism," recalls Sprinkle.

"However, panel members had hopes that Bill Dick, editor, and Bob Pratt, reporter, could make good use of the panel. Dick and Pratt were honest and reliable persons."

Other panel members included Dr. Jim Harder, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Dr. Frank Salisbury, and Dr. Robert Creegan.

"After a few years," says Sprinkle, "the editors expressed disillusionment

with the panel, and vice versa. When Dr. Hynek left the panel, it enjoyed neither the leadership nor the status with which it began."

Sprinkle's work on the NICAP survey, his experience with the Colorado UFO Project, and his participation on the *Enquirer* panel provided the basis for a chapter, "Psychological Implications in the Investigation of UFO Reports," in a 1976 book, *Encounters With UFO Occupants*, by Jim and Coral Lorenzen of APRO.

While most of this chapter dealt with techniques for handling UFO investigations, Sprinkle challenged investigators to broaden their thinking. He suggested, for example, that investigators consider the following:

"1. If the legends of angels or 'heavenly hosts' who visited the earth were true, what could be hypothesized about the historical characteristics of these visitors?

"2. If the claims of mental communication with UFO occupants were true, what could be hypothesized about the intellectual characteristics of these visitors?

3. If there were a similarity—or identity—of angels and UFO occupants, what could be hypothesized about the possible purposes of these beings?"

He added, "If it were assumed that evidence could be found to support further investigations along these lines, then more specific questions could be considered, such as:

"Is there archaeological evidence of other planets which might indicate previous expeditions from extra-planetary sources?

"Did Adam and Eve symbolize—or represent—the establishment of a colony from another planet?

"Is there a 'Kingdom of Heaven,' i.e. an organization(s) of extraterrestrial civilizations?

"Was the Star of the East over Bethlehem a UFO phenomenon?

"Was there a long-range purpose for

various covenants between ancient men and angels, e.g., the covenant between Abraham and the Angel of the Lord in regard to the practice of circumcision?

"Does the psychotic condition stem from repression and/or confusion of psychic and spiritual processes?

"Is there a similarity—or identity—of the inspiration teachings from angels to ancient men and the creative processes of modern man?"

Sprinkle concluded, "The writer believes it to be useful to speculate on the possibility that Biblical legends of angels are true, and that the claims of mental communication with UFO occupants are true.

"Assuming these conditions, hypotheses could be developed to test more specific questions about the historical and contemporary characteristics of UFO occupants."

This type of thinking was not widespread in 1967 when the book was published, and many ufologists were still reluctant to deal with the question of UFO occupant sightings, much less possible communications with those occupants.

"NICAP didn't want to deal with abduction cases until the Hill case," says Sprinkle. "APRO did, and so did some of the foreign organizations."

Sprinkle's activities heated up in the 1970's. In 1974 he worked on the Carl Higdon case in Wyoming, conducting hypnosis sessions which brought out numerous details in this strange encounter which occurred during Higdon's hunting trip for elk.

The following year he worked on the Larson abduction-from-a-car case, which involved hypnosis sessions with Sandy Larson and her daughter Jackie. A third individual involved in the encounter, Terry O'Leary, declined to undergo hypnosis.

Another well-known case in 1976 involved four women who had a harrowing abduction experience as they drove down a Kentucky highway.

"This was a challenging case," recalls Sprinkle, "for several reasons. There was friction between the investigators from APRO and MUFON, which Len Stringfield managed to cool

down. I was trying to be therapeutic for these women, who were so upset, and the investigators kept wanting me to find out how many fingers the entities had."

As Sprinkle became more involved with ufology, some academic colleagues began to question his fitness as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology.

This was particularly true when, beginning in 1980, he and the Institute for UFO Contactee Studies hosted the Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation, bringing alleged contactees to the University of Wyoming campus in Laramie.

Sprinkle had moved from the Department of Psychology to a position as director of counseling and testing, but by 1984 felt so much pressure from the university that he relinquished this position, held for 13 years, staying on as a psychologist and counselor.

"I think I was considered a pretty good teacher and a fair administrator," says Sprinkle, "but as I got more involved with ufology I found increasing pressure to lower my profile."

At one point, following a talk at Colorado State University and a newspaper article, some colleague—he does not know who it was—complained to the ethics committee of the American Psychological Association that Sprinkle was not being scientific in his approach to psychology.

"This was very upsetting to me, and especially to my wife," recalls Sprinkle, who still laughs easily and appears to be unflappable. "It took a year for the charge to be unanimously dismissed."

By 1989 Sprinkle says the pressure had become too great, and he resigned from the university and set up a private practice.

Ten years later his book, *Soul Samples*, was published. He explains that the title comes from a comment by interviewer Keith Thompson: "Leo," he

said, "when other investigators were chasing lights in the sky and gathering soil samples, you were helping UFO experiencers and gathering soul samples."

Sprinkle's ufological interests had, in fact, gradually evolved, moving from emphasizing physical evidence, then looking at biological evidence, and finally to exploring the psycho-social aspect of abductions and contact.

"Now the psychic or spiritual grabs me," he says, "including past lives and reincarnation. I became interested in the possibility of past lives through my work with abductions. Could some of the experiences of abductees be related to past lives?"

He relates the example of a Colorado woman whose abduction experiences apparently included being "jerked around" by an entity on board a UFO.

"In another hypnotic session," says Sprinkle, "she was regressed to a past life in which she was a surgeon who jerked people around."

He says the experiences that people have with entities—good or bad—depend on the viewpoint of the abductees.

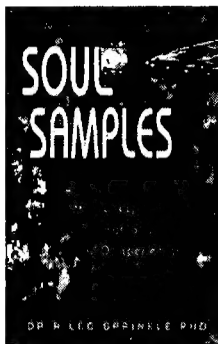
"Some experiencers have great experiences," says Sprinkle, himself an experiencer, "and some have horrid experiences. People with bad experiences are not bad people, but bad students. People who ask how they can serve humanity have a good experience."

He quotes Morris Jessup, an astronomer and early UFO researcher/writer, who described humans as the sheep, the angels/gods as the shepherds, and the entities as the sheep dogs which "come after us and nip at our heels."

Sprinkle believes that "the ultimate purpose of ETs is to wake people up and guide them. Humanity is about to engage in extensive travel in space, and we are not quite ready for membership in the galactic club."

MUFON reports

Field Investigators: Please send a copy of your sighting reports directly to the *Journal*.



Part two

Strange animals reported in the Ozarks

Editor's Note: This is the conclusion of the article in the March issue on strange animals in the Ozarks, which originally appeared in the *Ozark Spectator*.

Unusual animals, including those showing aggression, have been reported in conjunction with UFO cases throughout the world, but their significance is still a mystery.

(See review of *Hunt for the Skinwalker* in the March issue.)

The characteristics of the animal type reported in the Ozarks include coloring similar to a bobcat, oversized canine-like head and nose, mule-like ears, thick and muscular neck, cat-like tail rounded on the end, massive chest, muscular front legs, and noticeably shorter back legs causing sloped back.

When the animals run, they "push off," using their front legs, land on all four feet, and continue to travel in this manner.

By Tal H. Branco

On a spring day about 1991, an animal similar to the ones described by the witnesses was also seen near the Belt Cemetery north of Ozark by two local women.

Ruby Tolton and a relative had gone to the cemetery to do clean-up work when they saw a deer run from the woods into an open field behind the cemetery. When the deer reached the center of the field they saw an animal burst from the woods in hot pursuit.

The women were very puzzled because they could not identify the obvious predator. They could plainly see that it was not a dog or coyote, although it appeared to be some type of canine, rather than a bobcat or mountain lion.

A similar animal was seen by an employee of a local utility company when it crossed Highway 219 about three miles north of I-40.

The witness stated that the animal ran across the road toward the creek on the west side. The man stopped his vehicle and got out of the truck to try to get a better look at the animal.

He saw it standing and watching him

from about 100 yards away, but the man could not identify the animal. As he watched, the animal sped across the creek, and with apparent ease and obvious agility, scaled the steep bluff on the other side and disappeared into the woods above it.

One of the witnesses vividly recalls driving to a local farm with her small children in the 1980s to pick purple hull peas, and being told by the farmer (now deceased) to park close to the pea patch and to watch her children closely.

When she asked why, he told her he had recently seen a large, aggressive animal near the pea patch that he could not identify. He said the animal was intimidating and showed no fear of him.

In the Cravens area northwest of Ozark, local residents have also reported seeing an enigmatic quadrupedal animals. Although the descriptions of the animals seen in that area are basically the same, the descriptions are significantly different in some respects from those previously recorded.

The most pronounced difference between the descriptions from the two areas is in the length and size of the neck, and the angle of the neck in relation to the body when the animal is standing alert.

Ms. Lucille Elders, her son, and another relative who have seen the strange animals in that area at close range report that the animals' necks are disproportionately long for the size of the animals' bodies.

Ms. Elder's son, who saw one of the animals at night on two occasions, particularly noted that the animal's long neck was held in a very upright, and somewhat awkward looking position when the animal stood watching him. He stated the neck was very thick, and the head was "fat." He estimated the top of the animal's head was about three feet from the ground when it was watching him.

One resident of the Cravens area reported that the animal he saw had long ears. The animal seen by Ms. Elder was reported to have "small like ears."

Anecdotal reports from this area in-

About the author

Tal H. Branco is a life-long resident of Arkansas and an avid outdoorsman. Early in his career he was trained and employed as a law enforcement officer.

He was later employed for 23 years as a chemical analyst for an international corporation, and in that capacity established and supervised the operation of five laboratories in Brazil, two of which were located several hundred miles up the Amazon River.

He has investigated reports of enigmatic animals for nearly 30 years, and founded the Reclusive Forest Primate (RFP) Research Project about 15 years ago to gain help in pursuing those investigations.

The primary focus of his research has been on the large, hairy bipedal primate that is commonly called "Bigfoot" or Sasquatch."

dedicate the strange animals have been recently seen by other residents. One rancher reportedly saw such an animal resting on a hay bale in his pasture. According to some residents, these animals have been seen in the area for generations.

Based on the variations in the descriptions of the animals seen in Franklin County, it seems there are either two separate types of enigmatic animals in the area, or there is one species that manifests very unusual changes in its appearance while growing to maturity.

The animals will probably never be accurately identified—or properly classified if they are in fact an unknown species—until their DNA profile has been examined by professionals in that field.

While DNA can sometimes be obtained from a wild animal without it being killed, the odds are in this case that one of the animals will be shot by a farmer or rancher, or will be run over and killed while crossing I-40.

Documented crashes

MAJIC Eyes Only, Earth's Encounters with Extraterrestrial Technology by Ryan S. Wood, 2005, foreward by Jim Marrs, Wood Enterprises, 14004 Quail Ridge Drive, Broomfield, CO 80020, www.majesticdocuments.com, hardback, 6 x 9, 303 pages, \$29.95.

Reviewed by Dwight Connelly

Journal editor

This is one of the more important books to be offered in recent years, as it puts into one volume specific information regarding 74 reported UFO crashes, beginning with the now-famous Aurora, TX, incident of 1897.

As background to these incidents, Wood includes a 23-page Introduction describing some of the work which he and his father, Dr. Robert Wood, have done with what are thought to be leaked government documents regarding the UFO phenomenon, as well as with documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The term MAJIC is associated with MJ-12, MJ, MAJIC, MAJESTIC, MAJCOM, MAJSEC, MAJESTIC-12/33, and MAJIC EYES ONLY—all of which have been utilized as references and markings in the leaked UFO documents.

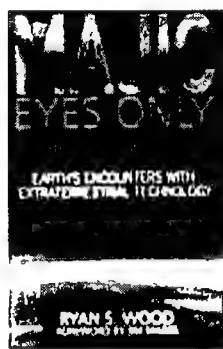
Wood notes that a special unit, the Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit (IPU), was set up by the government in 1942 to study the UFO phenomenon, and that a leaked IPU intelligence assessment, later stamped MAJIC, noted the crash in 1947 of two UFOs near the White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico.

One crashed near Corona, about 75 miles northwest of Roswell, and the other one southeast of Socorro, near the Trinity test site of the first atomic bomb.

Additional documents, as well as extensive research by the late Leonard Stringfield and other researchers, including Wood, are also utilized.

The author points out that "the cases presented in this book span the spectrum of quality, credibility, sources, and evidence—that is the harsh reality at present."

He adds, "It would be ideal if they were all highly credible, with unimpeachable sources and physical evidence, but they are not."



He notes, however, that "some cases are authentic almost by definition; they came from essentially unimpeachable sources like the National Archives or from

military records."

Wood has attempted to rate each of the cases on a five-point scale, from low to high authenticity, utilizing the factors of witness(es), 3.0; sources, 5.0; zingers (obscure facts, etc), 4.0; content (key data), 2.0; believable chronology, 2.0; no anachronisms, 4.0; and forensics (physical traces, paper and ink testing of documents, etc.), 5.0.

While not perfect, this is a valuable service for the reader, especially since it is done by an individual who specializes in researching this type of cases.

Naturally, some readers will quarrel with the ratings assigned. Cases rated at a "high level" of authenticity include Aurora, TX (1897); Roswell (1947); Braxton County, WV (1952); Kecksburg, PA (1965); and Shag Harbor, Nova Scotia, Canada (1967).

Aztec, NM (1948), received a rating of only "medium-high," apparently due to the reputations of some of the early sources.

However, the recent work of Scott Ramsey in locating new witnesses and other evidence is impressive. Wood

mentions Ramsey's work, but only indirectly through an interview of Ramsey by Linda Moulton Howe, which is considerably less than Ramsey's research deserves.

Somewhat surprisingly, the Cape Girardeau, MO (1941), incident is also rated only "medium high," despite the fact that Wood has personally researched this case and presents some good secondary witness testimony.

However, he is still working on this case, with hopes of finding physical evidence and/or additional witnesses.

UFO crash reports are, of course, of great interest to ufologists, and this book will not disappoint.

It is reader friendly with a good index, good organization, and appropriate drawings and photos. The approach is objective, and, when the fun of reading is over, this is a great reference.

Science, religion, & UFOs

The Lure of the Edge: Scientific Passions, Religious Beliefs, and the Pursuit of UFOs by Brenda Denzler, 2001, University of California Press, Berkeley, ISBN 0-520-23905-9, 6 x 9 paperback, 295 pages.

Reviewed by Barry H. Downing

MUFON Consultant, Religion

Publishers Weekly describes Brenda Denzler's book as "a deeply researched history of 'ufology.'" This is no overstatement.

I counted approximately 1,000 entries in her bibliography. This is work that compares with that of Jacques Vallee in academic quality.

For comparison, consider that Jerome Clark's encyclopedia, *The UFO Book*, lists fewer than 200 books in its bibliography. Some of the endnotes to her chapters are in excess of 200.

She has worked directly with persons much respected by MUFON. Her

Acknowledgments include thanks to "Walt Andrus and Wayne LaPorte (and all the NC MUFON gang) of the Mutual UFO Network."

This is a work that is both sympathetic to and yet examines critically the effort by UFO groups like MUFON to study the UFO phenomenon scientifically, and the frustration of having this work largely rejected by scientists.

At the same time, Denzler sees the religious dimension in the "UFO Myth," and reflects on this dimension in her work.

Denzler has a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Duke University, and this well suits her to do the work she has done.

She has been trained in academic excellence, and a Ph.D. in religious studies is different from, for instance, my own, which trained me to "be theological the way Presbyterians are supposed to be theological."

My scientific background has also trained me to be "objective" apart from my own religious beliefs, but all humans are by nature subjective, and can only aim at objectivity.

Denzler does not begin from a religious point of view, either Christian or non-Christian. If she has religious beliefs, they are not revealed in her work.

Rather, she is an observer of what has happened in America in regard to UFOs, and the purpose of her book is to show how the scientific dimension and religious dimension of the UFO phenomenon have interacted. She has done this very well.

Most writers of UFOs and religion try to argue that UFO aliens are angelic or demonic—or neither (just ancient astronauts).

Denzler does not try to make a case for any of these, but illustrates the challenge we face in gathering evidence, believing the evidence, and then interpreting the evidence.

She says, "There is a UFO phenom-

enon, and there is a UFO movement. It is the latter with which I am concerned." (p. xvii)

At the same time, the movement has been created by the phenomenon, so her first two chapters deal with "A Short History of the UFO Myth," and a "Short History of Alien Encounters."

Her first exposure to the abduction experience was Whitley Strieber's *Communion*, and this had a seminal impact on her. She understands the historical and cultural context in which we study UFOs.

"Since the Reformation depopulated the saint-filled cosmos of the Middle Ages, followed by the gradual abstraction and then elimination of God from the cosmos by rationally enlightened, scientific minds, a newly orphaned humanity has been asking, 'Are we, then, alone? The UFO experiences reported by thousands of people are one hint that the answer to that forlorn question may be, 'No. We are not alone.''" (p. xviii)

Once Denzler has explored the modern history of the UFO experience, she deals with human reaction to UFOs in the final three chapters, "Ufology: On the Cutting Edge or the Fringe of Science?," "Ufology and the Imaginal," and "Ufology, God-Talk, and Theology."

Denzler does not give us new UFO revelations, but rather helps us understand the context in which we have carried out our UFO quest.

A basic issue is that UFOs are too physical and too technological to suit those who study them from a religious point of view, and they are too kooky and full of the paranormal from a scientific point of view.

Scientists are happy when a UFO lands and leaves landing traces; they are not happy when a UFO abducts Betty Andreasson Luca and she seems to have a divine encounter during the abduction.

The main lesson from Denzler's book is that there is no way to separate the scientific and religious dimensions in the UFO phenomenon.

This is an excellent book. I hate to complain of anything, but I am surprised there is not a section dealing with

the biblical implications of UFOs for our culture. It is the "pillar of cloud and of fire" of the Exodus that got me into serious UFO study.

Denzler's detailed index does not list either Moses or Jesus. I think her "religious objectivity" is important, but that does not mean she should ignore the elephant in the UFO living room.

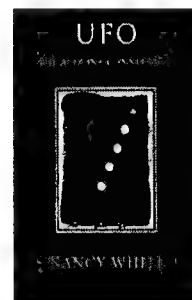
Unusual incidents

UFO—The Arizona Connection by Nancy White, 2006, soft cover, 6x9, 128 pages, \$20.00 (\$25.00 Canada) including shipping, available from George Parks, 630 W. Paseo Norteno, Tucson, AZ 85704-4641.

Reviewed by Dwight Connelly

Journal editor

This is the personal account of numerous unusual incidents which Mrs.



White and her husband, both retirees, have experienced since Feb. 2, 2000, beginning with the sighting of strange large lights near Salome, AZ.

While other unusual events, such as the strange malfunctioning of her cell phone, persistent helicopters, and what may have been an attempt on their lives are dealt with, it is the strange death of Mrs. White's brother which receives special emphasis.

Although there is the suggestion that he must have seen something which caused someone connected with the government to kill him, there is no specific tie with UFOs.

He simply tells the author that "they" are going to kill him, without explaining who "they" are, or why he may be killed. A week later he is found dead, with no cause of death determined.

There is, however, a wound on his head which his sister feels could have been caused by a powerful taser gun.

The author also discusses a teleportation incident and several UFO sightings. Her understanding of the UFO phenomenon is interweaved throughout the book in an effort to put her experiences in perspective.





FILER'S FILES

By George Filer
Director, MUFON Eastern Region



Note: These reports are presented in order to keep readers informed of some of the vast number of sightings being reported. However, these cases have not been officially investigated, unless noted.

North Carolina UFO over road

Grey's Creek — The witness reports, "I saw a UFO on Highway 87 on or about Dec. 12, 2005, as I drove north entering Cumberland County and spotted a red and bluish green light hovering 180 feet off the ground just over a power line.



George Filer

"I drove just about underneath it and drove to the next exit to make a U-turn. I saw it fly across the road, and I started driving south again. I looked to my left, and it was hovering 80 feet above the lines.

"I drove past it to make a left turn to try to get a closer look, as I couldn't see it through the trees. I went back to the highway and made a right to see if it was still there, but it was gone.

"It was an orb shape. The way this thing moved across the highway from a standstill, this was no helicopter." Thanks to Peter Davenport, director, NUFOC.

New Mexico disc at rocket launch

White Sands Missile Range — Edward P Bedy writes, "I was an engineer working on the NASA rocket program for 26 years. I didn't work this particular rocket because I had been back at Goddard Space Flight Center near DC. But I have over 850 launches under my belt.

On this morning in June of 1967 we
April 2006

were having a rocket launch at 8:20 AM. Since I had been traveling, I was excused from the actual launch. I was standing in front of Navy Headquarters with nine other people, looking east to the launch site ten miles across the range.

"We were listening to the range radio net that was giving the countdown when someone said, 'Look at that!' He was pointing to some object that was flying a circular pattern directly above the launch area.

"At times the object just appeared as a small black dot, except at the right and left edges of the orbit it would reflect the sun and appear as a shining object.

"This is astounding because the whole valley is covered by numerous radars, including those at Holloman AFB. The skies over WSMR are restricted airspace, and if a plane or other object flies over the range, the range goes to red status and no one can launch anything.

"The object evidently had not been detected by any of the radars, and the countdown continued. We saw the rocket rising from the launch pad, and the 1/4 inch disc was pacing alongside the rocket, going straight up.

"All of us saw this, and I know we did not possess an aircraft at that time that could fly straight up and pace that rocket. I can't explain it." Thanks to Chris Augustin, alien/UFO/paranormal investigator.

Argentina abduction?

General Pico (Agencies) — Cpl. Sergio Puchetta, visibly recovered from the odyssey he underwent for over 18 hours in which he claimed to have come in contact with aliens, has ratified all of his statements.

Through close friends he asked that

he "not be taken for a nut." Puchetta, who remains hospitalized in a ward of the Medical Clinic of the city's Centeno Hospital, indicates he may possibly agree to newspaper requests for an interview.

UFO researcher Oscar "Quique" Mario of La Pampa reached the site where Puchetta vanished on Thursday morning, and did not conceal his satisfaction at having secured the officer's testimony shortly after he was found.

Thanks to (translation (c) 2006, Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology. Special thanks to Christian Quintero, Planeta UFO)

Brazil flying star-shaped object

Parana — The witness says, "I was leaving my girlfriend's home in March, 2005, at 9 PM when we both saw a strange brown object flying near the street lights. Then it passed over our heads, and we could see it was not a balloon.

"There was no sound coming from the object on this very warm and clear night, and no wind blowing. The shape was like a star drawn by little children, with many edges in numbers of four.

"It seemed to be rotating, and its texture was dark metal like bronze, but not reflective. The object was flying about eleven meters off the ground, and was about 2 x 2 meters (the size of a man's arms opened).

"It was flying near the electric lines. I could throw a rock and hit it. We were amazed and a little frightened of a sinister thing flying just over our heads. It was flying straight, and its behavior was like a recognizing machine, or our satellites with nobody inside, unless the 'pilots' were really small."

Ohio three-foot humanoid

Fairborn — "Around 1 AM," says

the witness, "I awoke and was very disoriented and sick to my stomach, and it took me an hour to go back to sleep. Over the rest of the day, I have had multiple unexplained bizarre sightings and apparitions.

"At 7 AM it is still very dark, and I wake up for my morning shower before work, and I spot a small figure move across my back porch. The figure is three feet tall, and I was so frightened I locked myself in my basement room because there are no windows or ways to peek in.

"Around 7:30 AM I hear unexplained banging and boom noises. There is a loud ringing noise in one ear. By 2 PM I was not so fazed by the figure anymore, so I decided to drive to a friend's house on the outskirts of the city.

"As I am driving, I see a large diamond-shaped light come from a patch of woods off New Trebien Road. The light proceeded to fade, and I could spot movement towards the car. It had a dark graphite type texture and color and moved away from my car and disappeared into the woods.

"At 2:30 PM I arrive at my friend's, and we talk about the strange appearances. My friend agreed to stay overnight, and at 7 AM the little figure appears again as my TV goes haywire.

"We decided to leave, and drove out of town, stopping, puking, and proceeding to the nearest church. I spoke to the pastor and he tells me bad things are happening with that house. I pray I never see a little 3-foot pygmy on my back porch ever again." Thanks to Peter Davenport.

California landed cigar

Amboy — The witness reports, "At about 7 PM on Jan. 29, 2006, we were driving in the desert when we saw a cigar-shaped craft on the ground with rapidly moving lights. We passed within 20 feet of it. The craft was about 15 feet high, 20 feet long, and had six wings and six legs.

"There were neon colors moving around on the craft rapidly, going in every direction and changing colors. The body was longer than it was wide,

and it was flat on the bottom. There were three wings going horizontally on one side and three on the other side.

"In the middle of the wings there was a half circle of the color pink that was not moving. The craft was on the ground and the legs were extended.

"There was another car in front of us. After driving about two miles we both stopped and decided to turn around and go back, but the craft was no longer there." Thanks to Peter Davenport.

Pennsylvania giant object

Schwenksville — "I live right across from the Perkiom Valley Library," says the witness, "and I was returning a book on Jan. 14, 2006, at 9:35 PM. I noticed a huge moving light in the sky about 30 yards away from me.

"It must have been at least three football fields long; huge. I can only imagine how big it is up close. There were three rows of lights, top, bottom, and middle.

"The top and bottom rows were plain yellow lights, and the middle row was an intense red shining light. The very intense light nearly blinded me. And strangely a big gust of wind was blowing. It had a weird shape to it, like a star-like triangle, cylinder shape.

"I didn't get a chance to get a picture, but by the time I went back outside it was still moving behind some trees. I believe some other people saw it, too. Two or three cars pulled over. I have seen others in the past, but not as huge as this one."

West Virginia triangle

Branchland — The witness reports, "I am currently trying to build my own house on a remote piece of property, and have been camping out on the house site. On Jan. 11, 2006, at 11:52 PM, I went outside to see why my dog was whining, and noticed a bright shimmering light above the next ridge.

"There has never been anything on the ridge, and the light began growing larger and pulsating. Between pulsations a red light would appear, and after a couple minutes it started to rise straight upwards and flew towards me.

"As it got closer, I could tell it was triangular in shape, with one extremely bright white light on the front and a pulsating red light underneath. It gained speed as it got closer and passed a regular jet in a couple of seconds.

"As it passed overhead I could tell it was huge, dwarfing any regular jet. It passed by without making a sound, and within a few more seconds it was gone. The hairs on my neck would not go down, and I had to have several more smokes before I could calm down and go to bed." Thanks to Peter Davenport, director, www.ufocenter.com

Tennessee UFOs illuminate area

Kingsport — A witness reports he awoke late in the night on Feb. 10, 2006, seeing a golden shimmering light outside which was illuminating his bedroom slightly.

Unconcerned, he decided to go to the bathroom, and he did not have to turn on the bathroom light due to the intensity of the light from outside. He saw what he described as a golden shimmering oval-shaped object hovering over a hill, several hundred yards away.

The object was illuminating everything outside—trees, grass, and houses. He watched for a few minutes, and the object remained unchanged.

"He also remembers having no feelings of excitement toward this event and went back to bed. Twenty minutes later he realized something bizarre had happened and looked again, but the oval had left.

Tennessee car effects

Carter County — On Feb. 27, 2006, we received a call from a female witness who saw a large arrowhead-shaped object which was illuminated with a soft white glow.

The object landed on a ridge top and remained there for five minutes. As she watched from her stopped car, the object slowly ascended and flew over her position, causing her car to sputter as it crossed overhead.

It was the size of a golf ball at arm's length. The object was strangely silent and had a white glow. Thanks to Kim Shaffer, AUFORC Network.

New York/Georgia images

Ticonderoga — Frank Soriano writes: "On July 1, 2003, I took photos of what looked like a shiny polished submarine flying over my home. I felt compelled to go outside and took 12 photos of the object moving north to south. The UFO apparently reversed direction in the last photo."

Frank was contacted by former Police Chief Gary Sheppard of La Grange, GA, who sent a photo his wife had taken in their backyard in March of 1997 of a similar cylinder-shaped craft.

In the images to the right, Frank's photo is matched with the photo of Gary Sheppard. The image near the Columbia Space Shuttle also seems similar.

Another person sent me a sketch of a craft of a similar cylinder that they had seen over Lake George, NY, in July, 1997.

Dr. Bruce Maccabee analyzed these photos and indicated this to be a single unidentified flying object with two major whitish sections connected by a narrow structure or of two elliptical unidentified flying objects traveling in a close formation. Thanks to Frank Soriano and Bruce Maccabee

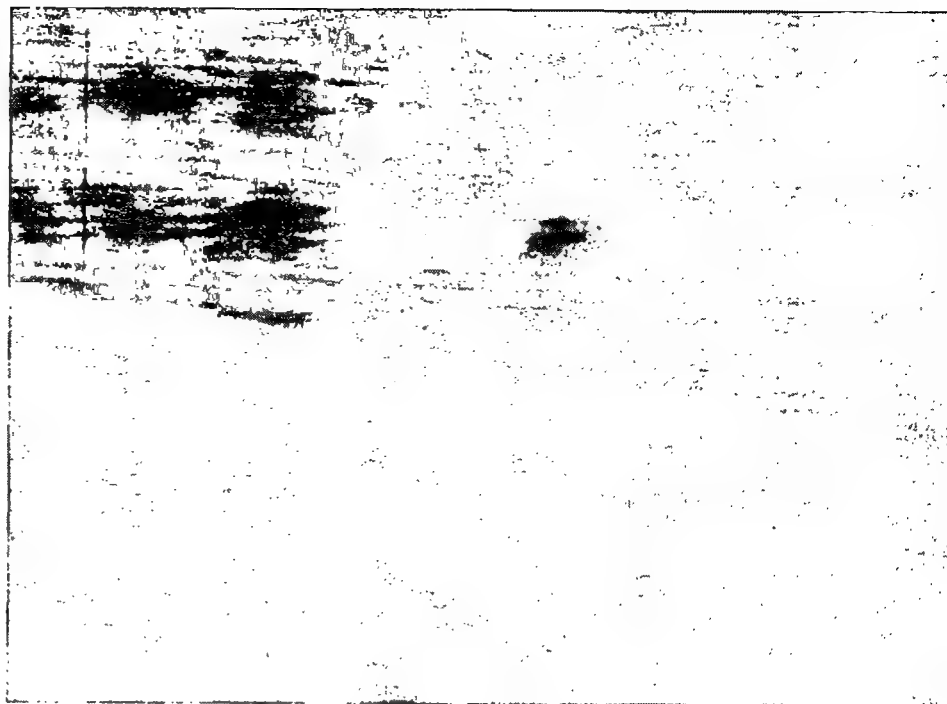
Arizona black triangle and disc

Mesa — The witness says, "On Jan. 14, 2006, at about 7:30 PM, my girlfriend and I were driving home when I noticed a large bright yellow orb moving fast about four miles away.

"This orb was following our vehicle off to the left of us, but was moving closer. When we got home the orb was gone, but I decided to look for it about 8 PM, and saw that the orb was nearby. It moved very slow, without sound, and had drastically dimmed to an eerie dark glow with the shape of a black triangle.

"There was a red light on the front tip, and two red stationary lights on the two back tips. The lights were dim, and lit up the image of the triangle. It would drift away, turn, and return as if it was rotating in a long, slow circular pattern.

"It went on like this for about two hours. At one point, the triangle's red tip shot out a faded yellow light beam. Then at 11 PM it shot out a small white orb sideways that changed its course



New York and Georgia images compared.

and flew back inside the triangle. Eventually the triangle drifted off." Thanks to Peter Davenport.

Huge Arizona disc

ELOY — "At about 11 PM on Jan. 29, 2006," the witness reports, "while driving home on I-84, I looked up and noticed a large disc-shaped object slowly moving, almost floating, in a southeast direction about 1,000 feet high two miles away.

"It was huge, some 500 to a 1,000 feet in diameter and several stories high with numerous lights of different colors flickering on and off. I pulled off to the side of the road to watch the disc slowly glide through the air.

"As it passed over the travel center I got back in my truck and sped up Sunland Gin Road to get a closer look. I chased it as far as Arizona City and watched it slowly cruise southeasterly through the desert." Thanks to Peter Davenport.

Florida object chased by fighters

Panama City — The witness reports, "On Feb. 8, 2006, a crystal clear night, I stepped outside to have a cigarette at 7:22 PM, and looked up when I heard jets from Tyndall Air Force Base. At first I saw three fighters and a strange

craft that was lit up all over with yellowish lights.

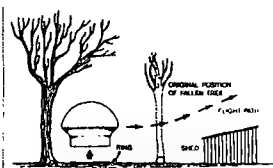
"One of the fighters was within five hundred feet of it, and the other two were about two miles behind in hot pursuit. The large yellow craft peeled off and was out of sight in a matter of seconds. The fighters did not follow, but they did kick on their afterburners until I couldn't see them anymore, even with binoculars.

"I called my girlfriend outside to see, and she saw something move very quickly across the sky in a second that definitely freaked her out. As I continued to watch the jets and afterburners, I caught something by pure chance moving at a high rate of speed.

"I thought it was a dim star, but it was moving extremely fast coming from the direction the jets were heading. At this point, the base came alive and more jets were launched." Thanks to Peter Davenport

Minnesota silver object

Lino Lakes — "It was a very clear day on Feb. 6, 2006," says the witness, "when I looked up at 2:30 PM to see a silver round oval object at about 40,000 to 50,000 feet. It hovered for about a minute, then just darted straight up and into space." Thanks to Peter Davenport.



Physical Traces

By Ted Phillips

The Cato landing: conclusion

In previous columns I discussed testimony from the several witnesses involved in this important landing/take-off case in Missouri, as well as some of the aspects of my investigation.

Following are additional details of the investigation:

The lowest temperatures of the period would not have produced a killing frost accounting for the effects on the site plants.

I was told that the lowest reading (29 degrees) was a brief one, and would not have damaged the plants. Also, the surrounding plants were lush and green with no visible effects of a frost.

I shipped the soil and plant samples to the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) on Oct. 24, 1978. No results have been received as of this date.

I sent additional samples to Dr. Edward Zeller at the Space Technology Laboratory, and there was no indication of radiation.

On June 26, 1979, I shipped samples to UPIO in St. Louis. No analysis results have been received.

In attempting to determine if the object could have been a balloon, several factors were investigated.

Based on information from the two weather service sites, the conditions were determined for the period of observation:

Surface wind: 150 to 160 degrees at 8 knots.

Winds at 3,000 ft: 180 degrees at 11 knots.

Air Temperature: 0700: 50 degrees, 0900: 56 degrees.

Visibility: 15 miles, ceiling 10,000

ft scattered thin clouds, additional thin scattered clouds at 25,000 ft.

Balloon Launches: The National Weather Service (NWS) Station in Monett, MO, was the only launch site for weather balloons in the region.

They had a launch at 0600, and Lonnie Nine stated that the balloons are normally in the air for 90 minutes to 110 minutes maximum. They ascend at a rate of 1,000 feet per minute, and are normally visible up to 10,000 feet.

The NWS balloon is made of Deer-Rex, an artificial rubber product that expands to the size of four average rooms before bursting and dropping the red paper parachute with the instrument package.

The Monett Station does launch two weather balloons a day, at 0600 and 1800. On the morning in question, winds were from the SE at launch. The balloon ascended to the NW away from the Sturgell farm, located 17 miles SE of the launch site.

The Cato object left the ground on a trajectory of 320 degrees, according to the witnesses, as noted by landmarks it was passing over, crossing the surface winds.

It made a turn to the right and ascended along a flight path bearing 325 degrees, again crossing the wind, followed by a sweeping left turn to a bearing of 305 degrees, which put it in line with the second object which was hovering in the distance.

Whatever the Cato object was, it was a powered device with the ability to cross the wind and correct its direction of ascent.

I asked Mr. Nine if a balloon could have re-inflated, and he said it could not. He stated, "Once a balloon is on the ground, it remains on the ground. It will not take off again, as in this case, it would have to."

Dr. Hynek checked numerous sources and eliminated other balloon launches by the military or other gov-

ernment agencies, finding none that could have reached the Cato site.

Similar events

The following events from the CPTR files indicate similar objects/traces as the Cato event:

06/03/20, 1030, IA, Mt. Pleasant.

Jesse Clark Linch states, "We had a large pond, and on my 22nd birthday my mother suggested I take the day off and catch some fish for dinner. I went to a maple grove on the west side of the pond.

"There was no wind, no clouds, and the sun shone on my back as I faced west fishing. At about 10:30 I saw at about tree top level out of the west a strange object coming.

"It came in across the pond and settled gently on the grass about 15 feet south of me. It was the size of a 5 gallon cream can that had been split lengthwise, rather flat on the bottom. Side view was a sky blue color, completely noiseless.

"It did not alarm me, but I was curious. After 15 minutes or so I laid down my pole and thought to investigate the object. When I got up to pick it up, it left, slowly lifting over the trees in the west and disappearing—still no noise."

The witness stated the object came and left on a trajectory of about 45 degrees, and it did not turn when it left.

He estimated the size to be 32 inches long, 18 inches wide, and 10 inches high. It was curved at the top and ends, and flat on the bottom. It appeared to be solid, but it had a semitransparent effect. The grass was depressed.

08/11/48, MN, Hamel. Two young boys were playing outside when a round dull gray object 70 cm in diameter and 30 cm thick landed near them like a balloon, but with a metallic noise.

It spun, went up, hovered, maneuvered to avoid telephone lines and trees and flew away to the northeast. An FBI agent from St. Paul found an area 70 cm in diameter where the ground



Ted Phillips

showed signs of extreme pressure. One of the boys told the FBI that the object "hit the ground, spun around once, made a whistling sound, and then shot straight up about 20 feet, stopped again, and made more whistling noises.

"It then shot up again 10 feet more, maneuvered round tree branches and telephone wires, and suddenly sped off to the northwest. It was dull gray in color, and about 2 feet wide."

It was 12 feet off the ground before descending between the children.

Blue Book Report: "CIC Special Agent Capt. Charles L. Victor, 113th CIC Det., found an area 2 feet in diameter where the ground showed signs of extreme pressure."

04/04/50, TX, Amarillo. Two men were fishing near Amarillo when they saw a disc land behind a hill. The object was small, less than 1 m in diameter with a rounded top that rotated, and a pivot between the base and top.

They touched it, and it released a gas or spray which caused the witnesses' faces and arms to redden. It ascended at very high speed. There were crushed traces.

11/08/54, 1600, France, Chaunay. 1 m object, traces. Reliable witnesses reported seeing a luminous sphere land at the edge of a forest and become dark. Next morning an area 18 feet in diameter had no leaves, and the earth seemed to have been dug up.

04/14/57, 1500, France, Caramy. Male witness, 1 m object seen 5 minutes, traces.

06/14/64, 2100, IN, Dale. Charles Englebecht went outside when his television and all house lights suddenly failed. He saw a glowing blue-white object, about 2 feet in diameter, land in a field 60 feet away.

He felt a mild electric shock when he tried to approach it, and couldn't move forward. There was a small burned area with three indentations forming a triangle and measuring an inch in depth and diameter. All the cherry trees and garden plants around the landing area died after the sighting.

00/00/72, 1650, MO, Brunswick. 1 m object, near landing, burnt area, 3 imprints.

05/28/74, 2220, France, Epineau. 1 m object lands, 3 imprints.

06/13/74 1650 Spain, Las Laderas. 1 m object, smaller object emerges, both burn ground.

08/04/74, 2230, France, Puellos. small sphere, tree damage.

08/02/76, ?, TX, El Paso. 1 m object, near ground, 1 m circular dehydrated area.

12/13/76, 0030, Italy, Liscate. Near landing of 1 m object, whistling sound, 4m circular burn.

07/17/78, 0530, Portugal, Victor. 1 m sphere, burn traces.

08/19/79, 0030, Bolivia, Ina. 1 m sphere, radiation.

10/06/79, 2130, MN, Barnum. Male witness, 1 m object, EM traces.

10/21/82, 1240, France, Nancy. 1 m+ object, 1 m away, 1 m above ground, dehydrated traces.

00/00/84 2130 CA, Glacier. Law enforcement ranger, red object less than 1 m in diameter ascending from ground 40 yards away, circular dehydrated area with a tar-like substance at point of ascent.

08/13/89, 1030, LA, Mansura. Male witness, 1 m object, 30 feet away, traces.

04/00/91, 1900, Brazil, Sito Aracas. Two girls chased by brilliant light, very close, intense heat, sphere 1 m diameter, human effects, burns.

08/28/92, ?, Brazil, Campo. Man, wife, three daughters walking home, brilliant light less than a meter in diameter approached, and they were all levitated briefly. They hid under a cashew tree until object finally left. Tree died within days.

04/01/99, 1955, Salem, MO. I had placed a video unit on the east side of a wooden shelter building to monitor the area from sunset to sunrise, as the site had been a center of unusual activity for a long period of time.

The camera was linked to a VCR unit to lengthen the recording time. It had been in operation since March 15, 1999. On April 1 three people witnessed the following event as described by the property owner:

"Tonight, from 1900 to 1955 five of us were sitting at the farm. The night was warm and the sky was partly cloudy. At 1955 two of our friends began to turn their car around and leave the farm while my wife and I carried

chairs back to the cabin porch and to E (caretaker of the farm), who was in the back room of the cabin.

"As E stood on the back porch facing east he suddenly yelled and pointed behind us. My wife and I quickly turned around, and all three of us observed an extremely fast moving oval of white light 3 or 4 feet long moving from the south to the north.

"The object was not much higher than my windmill (30 ft high & 40 ft away) and passed between the windmill and our location. When the object got to the front of the cabin near the bell, it made an instant left turn to avoid trees in front of it.

"It followed the drive around the cabin, and was following the car as it left. We couldn't see it then, as it was on the other side of the cabin and moving south again.

"There was absolutely no sound or wind created by the object. It passed directly over and in front of Ted's camera that was operating.

"We ran to the camera to find it was shut down, and the tape ejected. The camera would not work. The VCR also failed to function."

I recovered the camera, VCR, and seventeen extra tapes stored four feet from the camera and found the equipment, including the extra tapes, ruined.

An audio/video expert in Branson examined the tapes and equipment and said the damage appeared to be the result of exposure to very high temperatures.

05/08/04, 1000, Boyeros, Cuba. Multiple witnesses, 1 m oval-shaped object landed in a field. It was silver with a metallic tail in its lower surface. Witnesses were very close.

The object ascended vertically, hovered, and flew away through palm trees. No sound was heard. Grass and plants were scorched over a small area where the object landed.

Estate Planning

Planned giving can be beneficial to both MUFON and to your own tax and estate situation.

If you wish to have more information on various options and benefits, please contact MUFON Headquarters.

Stan Gordon reports wide range of Pennsylvania sightings

By Stan Gordon

Residents of Pennsylvania continue to report encounters of the unusual kind on a yearly basis, with strange incidents being reported from 40 counties in the commonwealth during 2005.

During the past 46 years I have investigated thousands of strange and unusual happenings from across the Keystone state. I have never had a personal UFO or Bigfoot encounter, but am convinced that not all UFO sightings or other anomalies can be easily dismissed.

I have been taking sighting reports from the public since 1969. Back in 1970, I founded the Westmoreland County UFO Study Group, the first of three volunteer research groups I directed. Besides keeping track of current incidents, I am continuing to investigate the 1965 Kecksburg UFO crash incident.

Some of the interesting events reported during 2005 include:

Jan. 2, 2005, Westmoreland County. During the early evening, a man visiting in a rural location near the Chestnut Ridge heard the sound of brush snapping in a field about 40 feet away. The witness crossed the road to look around, thinking that it was a large deer. Instead, a huge man-like creature with dark hair and huge arms was soon observed.

The creature was very broad shouldered, and was estimated to be well over 7 feet tall and around 500 pounds. The creature was observed as it moved uphill, and it quickly covered a large distance with its' huge stride.

February 2, 2005, Washington County. Around 4:40 PM the driver of a car traveling in the vicinity of the toll booth entrance had her attention drawn to something huge and black in the sky.

The witness watched as the object made a left turn swoop, and realized that she wasn't observing an aircraft, but instead a huge bird.

The creature was all black, and the wings were estimated to be the length of a small aircraft. The witness pulled off the road and watched the strange sight for a few minutes.

March (or early April) 2005, Fayette County. This case was investigated by researcher Jim Brown.

A man walking near Smithfield observed two strange objects that were about the size and shape of a football, glowing very brightly, and moving swiftly through the air at close range.

At one point, both objects hovered low over the road, then flew off very fast and passed under a railroad bridge which was only about 14 feet high.

August 24, 2005, Vandergrift. A man was packing his car at 5:20 AM when he observed an object in the sky moving from the northwest towards the east that looked like a flattened football with a bump on top and was bright silver in color. The object made no sound as it passed across the sky and was observed for a long distance.

Then suddenly, a second object came from the direction of Pittsburgh that looked triangular in shape with a pointed front section, and with several lights on it.

This object appeared to slow down to adjust to the speed of the first object which was still crossing the sky. The triangular-shaped object took on a burst of speed, and began to chase the first object across the sky. Both objects were soon lost from sight.

I also received reports from West Virginia and Ohio as well.

Contact. To report a UFO sighting, Bigfoot, or other strange encounters, call my 24-hour PA UFO Hotline at: 724-838-7768, or e-mail me at: pauf0@westol.com. Write to me at: P.O. Box 936, Greensburg, PA 15601.

For information on Pennsylvania's UFO sighting and other strange encounters, as well as the Kecksburg UFO crash, visit my web-site at: www.stangordon.com

Stars most likely to have living planets ranked

Margaret Turnbull of the Carnegie Institution has released her "top 10" list of potential stars with planets having potential for life.

This includes nearby stars of the right size, age and composition to have Earth-like planets circling them.

They will be the first targets of Terrestrial Planet Finder, a system of two orbiting observatories scheduled for launch by 2020.

"There are 400 billion stars in the galaxy, and obviously we're not going to point the Terrestrial Planet Finder at every one of them," said Turnbull. So, on behalf of NASA and the SETI Institute, she narrowed down the list to stars with planets with liquid water orbiting them.

Variable stars, which grow hotter and cooler, probably would not be conducive to life, so they were thrown out, as were stars that are too young or too old.

Some are too gassy to have spawned planets like Earth, which contains a lot of metal. Others have massive companions whose gravity could interfere with the steady conditions needed for life to evolve.

Turnbull's Top 10 List includes 51 Pegasus, where in 1995 Swiss astronomers spotted the first planet outside our solar system, a Jupiter-like giant.

Others include 18 Sco in the Scorpio constellation, which is very similar to our own Sun; epsilon Indi, a star one-tenth as bright as the Sun; and alpha Centauri B, part of the closest solar system to our own.

"The truth is," Turnbull said, "when looking at these so-called 'habstars,' habitable solar systems, it is really hard to rank them.

"I don't know enough about every star to say which one is the absolute best one."

—Thanks to NASA.

Brandon Scott, George Knapp win film awards at UFO Congress

The EBE winner for the Best Feature Film at the International UFO Congress and Film Festival in Laughlin, NV, was the film "Alien Secrets."

It is directed by J.J. Barmettler and produced by Barmettler, Brandon Scott, and Richard Smith.

Hundreds of attendees showed up to experience this film. After presenting the award, Bob Brown, founder of the International UFO Congress, commented to the attendees, "I really enjoyed the film. I got it, and I think most of you out here will. It has humor so we can laugh at ourselves. Very nicely done."

"Filmmaker Barmettler and UFO investigator Scott worked with 43 artists, 23 abductees, 30 experts, and 200 eye witnesses who have had experiences in the alien phenomenon.

"Their discovery suggests that there

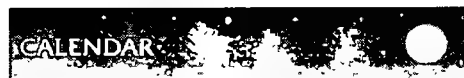
is a hidden generation of alien/human hybrids living among us. In the process of the investigation a female hybrid speaks out for the first time ever on film.

"With more than 20 original songs, real UFO footage, and a daring subject matter, this provocative film is sure to be a cult sensation."

The Best Historical UFO Documentary and Best UFO Documentary Long Subject went to "UFOS: The Best Evidence—The Government Cover-Up," by George Knapp.

This program examines how governments (especially our own) have been hiding the truth about secret UFO studies, astronaut encounters, and military battles with alien craft.

Viewers are also taken on an unprecedented trip to Russia, where UFO secrets from behind the former Iron Curtain are investigated.



April 8, 2006—Ohio MUFON and The Cleveland Ufology Project (CUP), Oberlin College Science Center, West Lecture Hall, N174 119 Woodland St., Oberlin, OH, featuring Richard Dolan, "UFOs, National Security, and You: What's Going On and Why It Matters," 4-6 PM with book signing to follow. Contact Richard Lee, 330-928-1355, rlee@neo.rr.com or CUP website <http://www.clevelandufo.com/home.html>

April 14, 15, and 16—18th Annual Ozark UFO Conference, Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR, featuring Timothy Good, Linda Moulton Howe, Wendelle Stevens, Joe Lewells, Paul Von Ward, Dr. Rudy Schild, Norman Oliver, and additional speakers, plus Sunday morning mini-sessions. webbf123@webtv.net ozarkufo.com

May 13-14—CPRI Paranormal Conference, Richmond-Koger South Conf CTR, Richmond, VA, featuring Jason Hawes, Dr. Sally Rhine Feather, John Zaffis, and Mark Nesbitt. http://virginiaghosts.com/paranormal_conference_06.php

May 19-20—McMenamins UFO Festival, McMinnville, OR, 503-223-0109, www.ufofest.com.

June 16-18—SGRA conference, Howard Johnson Motel, Milford, CT, featuring Jeff Belanger, John Zaffis, Stacey Jones, Stephen Wagner, Nick Roesler, Diane Bajorinas, Jon Nowinski, Todd Bates, Dr. Jimmy Lowerey, and Mark Mihalko. www.sgra-media.org.

July 14-16, 2006—The 37th Annual MUFON International UFO Symposium, Marriott Denver Tech Center Hotel, Denver, CO. "Unconventional Flying Objects: The Best Evidence." Featured speakers include Brian Boldman, Carl Feindt, Linda Moulton Howe, David Marler, Ted Phillips, Ron Regehr, Steve Reichmuth, Kenneth Storch, Marshall Vian Summers, Ruben Uriarte, and Ryan Wood.

State & local newsletters

If your group is not currently sending your newsletter to the *Journal*, we would appreciate receiving it.

MUFON FORUM

Dear Dwight;

Thank you for the review of George's and my book [Filer's Files in the February issue] in the *MUFON Journal*.

Your observation that reports supplied by Peter Davenport of NUFORC being conspicuously absent requires an explanation:

When the book project began, I realized that Davenport had been acknowledged in Filer's Files for a great number of sighting reports.

Even though these reports were considered to be in the public domain (as they were freely published on the World Wide Web and repeated on many other sites), as a professional courtesy I called Peter to advise him of the project and ask his permission to publish some of these accounts in the book.

He refused to give me his permission, citing that it was not the web, but a book for profit. He also indicated that

he had planned to write a similar book.

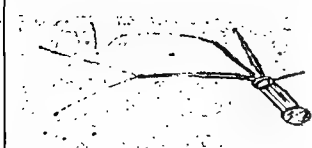
After consulting with George about Peter's decision, we decided that there were plenty of good reports within past Filer's Files newsletters to fill a book with plenty to spare without using any supplied by NUFORC.

I made a copy of all Filer's Files from the past three years. Then I found and deleted all reports that were taken from NUFORC's web site.

From the list of reports that remained, I picked and chose reports that were more convincing than that of the "lights in the sky" variety.

After reading the final draft, George called me and said that he would like to mention Peter's name in the Acknowledgments because of all the sighting reports he had shared with him in the past. That is why that is the only place in the book that his name appears.

—David Twichell



PERCEPTIONS

By Stanton T. Friedman

The question of Serpo

For a variety of reasons I am often asked my opinion on recent topics in ufology. If I know enough to have an opinion, not being a shrinking violet, I give it. This includes topics such as Bob Lazar, Philip Corso, SETI, etc.

On other occasions I have to say, "It is in my 'gray' basket." I don't know enough to have a scientific opinion. The world is often not black or white, but "gray."

This covers such areas as string theory, dark matter, dark energy, and other far out physics. I know I don't have the math background to follow these arguments closely.

Based on my professional work in industry, I am much more impressed with observations than with theory.

Gray Basket is sort of an extension of the category "Insufficient Information" for some of the 3,201 sightings in Project Blue Book Special Report 14.

Whether it is ufology, physics, or astronomy, I have to remind people that theoretical proclamations have very often been wrong. Think of claims that Mars was never wet, that Venus was a tropical paradise, that the speed of sound cannot be exceeded by an airplane, or that space travel is utter bilge.

Recently I have been asked about Serpo, a supposed planet in the Zeta Reticulum double star system to which a dozen Americans were supposedly secretly taken back in 1965 and returned 13 years later—those who survived and wanted to come back.

I had read bits and pieces, but couldn't resist reading more when I got the February-March edition of *UFO Magazine* with the word Serpo in four-inch high letters on the cover.

I had been sent the issue because of my article about the late Walter Haut of Roswell, NM, who had done the press release on July 8, 1947, saying

that the 509th Bomb Group had obtained the wreckage of a flying saucer that had crashed north of Roswell.

The magazine carries separate streams of articles, including claims by Mr. Anonymous about the journey; background by Rick Doty, who was heavily involved with UFOs when he



Stan Friedman

was an officer in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations; and by Victor Martinez who maintains a list that covers a wide variety

of topics, not just UFOs and other related matter.

Victor is now a school teacher in Southern California, and has carried many entries about Serpo on his internet list.

The basic idea of an exchange program (one ET supposedly stayed here) doesn't particularly bother me.

It ties together reports of a supposed meeting at Holloman Air Force Base in April, 1964, between visiting aliens and Air Force officers. It also reinforces the notion that Zeta 1 and Zeta 2 Reticuli are stars likely to be inhabited by advanced aliens.

Since I was the first to publish an article about Marjorie Fish's outstanding research on the Betty Hill Star Map, which focused on ZR 1 and ZR-2 (*Saga Magazine*, July 1973) and also stimulated the publication by outstanding astronomy writer Terence Dickinson (then editor of *Astronomy*) of "The Zeta Reticuli Incident," I was particularly intrigued, having almost run out of the 18,000 copies of the 32-page booklet

with Dickinson's original article and a bunch of responses published in *Astronomy*.

There are obviously a lot of possibilities. Perhaps it is all a science fiction story. There have been far wilder plots published.

It could be repetition of secondhand stories by people who believe them but have no real verification that they are true. It could be that the whole business is a fairly elaborate disinformation scheme to set ufologists off following false trails. Maybe it is a mix of misinformation and disinformation.

There are internal inconsistencies. In one place it is claimed that 12 men were selected and trained and shipped off. In another it was 10 men and two women.

One place says 7 men and one woman returned, 2 died on Serpo and 4 chose to remain. That adds up to 14. In one place it is claimed that the Roswell crash happened southeast of Corona. In another it says southwest.

Some people get upset when I talk of disinformation and claim that governments can both keep large secrets and lie to the public.

I should point out that the first nuclear explosion took place at Trinity Site on the White Sands Missile Range in southeastern NM on July 16, 1947, at about 5:30 AM.

Because the explosion was very powerful, it was seen from over 100 miles away. A press release was issued saying that an ammunition dump had blown up and, fortunately, nobody was injured... a flat out lie.

Can't keep secrets? In late 2005 the National Reconnaissance office noted for the first time that it had launched seven "Poppy" spy satellites between 1962 and 1971. These were very sophisticated and expensive. No previous public discussion.

Along the same lines, the Naval Research Laboratory first admitted it had launched a number of Corona Electronic Intelligence satellites beginning in 1960.

The first successful launch followed 12 failures, all covered up as scientific satellites. It obtained more data about Soviet radar and other electronic installations than all the U-2 spy plane flights that preceded it... all in secret and involving hundreds if not thousands of people and big budgets..

A good example of false information being presented unintentionally by somebody who almost certainly believed it turned up on the Discovery Channel documentary "Conspiracy Files: Roswell" on March 2, 2006.

Kent Jeffrey, an airline pilot who had originally been very strongly pro Roswell, even circulating a petition to get government data released, etc, turned 180 degrees.

He made four arguments on the show, all of which I had long ago shown to be false. He admitted he had never had a security clearance, which helps explain his naïve views.

1. He had spoken to 16 B-29 pilots who had been based at Roswell, and they all dismissed the flying saucer story. Sounds impressive.

However, one has to ask why would B-29 pilots training to drop nuclear weapons have had a need-to-know for classified information about the recovery of an alien spacecraft? If by chance they had been informed, why in the world would they reveal classified information to somebody without a clearance and without a need to know?

2. Kent talked to people who, well after 1947, had served at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. He had expressed the strange belief that they would necessarily have known about classified wreckage being brought in years earlier!

There had been more than 20,000 people working at WPAF. Gen. Exxon had told me in person that when he was base commander in the mid 1960s, he did NOT have a need to know for everything going on at the base.

Even if the people Kent talked to had

known anything, they would not have passed the classified information on to somebody without a clearance or need-to-know.

3. Kent referred to a statement made by an intelligence Officer (Col. McCoy) at the base to a large group of scientists indicating how much he would like to have a crashed saucer in hand.

Kent never mentions that the document containing these remarks was only classified SECRET, not TOP SECRET Code Word as are the "released" highly classified NSA and CIA blacked-out and whited-out UFO documents, and that most of the group would certainly not have had a need-to-know.

Finally hypnotic regression of Dr. (Colonel) Jesse Marcel Jr. didn't bring out a new analysis of the I beam observed when he was 11! What was Kent expecting? The hypnosis did refine Jesse's memory of the exact shapes of the symbols..

In short, Kent may have believed everything he said was the gospel truth and shows there was no Roswell. It is simply not true.

The people talking about Serpo may believe what they are saying. But why is the distance given in one place as 37 light years (the old estimate) when the fine measurements by the European Space Agency's Hipparcos Space satellite show it is 39.2 ly?

Why is it claimed that the planet is one Astronomical Unit (92 Million miles) from each of the two stars? It would be impossible to have a stable orbit with two stars that close.

The Hipparcos measurements indicate the separation is about 9,000 AU or about 1/8th light year—quite suitable for stable orbits. Serpo supposedly has only 600,000 people, most living in very simple structures. Why (and how) come to Earth in a huge mother ship?

It is claimed that the beings there don't like cool weather and have no means of refrigeration. Betty and Barney Hill had both noted it was cold on board the spacecraft.

It supposedly took about nine months (crew time) to reach Serpo, which would mean traveling at about 99.95% of the speed of light. This should mean

that when the travelers came back they were much younger than those who stayed on Earth. They weren't.

Supposedly, Serpans (hard to accept EBEns as the name for them) have no weapons. So why have there been a number of cases in which military jets were apparently disintegrated when making threatening movements towards the alien craft?

There is mention of communication back and forth in less than a year, but no indication of how that was done or of nearby support bases within the solar system.

Supposedly there was a terribly destructive war a few thousand years ago with another civilization, and Dr. Carl Sagan signed off on the final report, maybe 3,000 pages in a Red Book? Evidence? NONE.

Rick Doty noted that he had heard rumors of such a project, and got surprised reactions when he mentioned it to other intelligence officers. Was it because they too had heard similar rumors, or were they aware that this was a disinformation scheme devised years ago in case public pressure, perhaps because of Roswell, got too strong?

I am not happy to say so, but the Serpo story is still very much in my gray basket. Certainly absence of evidence is NOT evidence of absence, but much more is needed to put me in the Serpan believer camp.

Silent Auction Donations needed

This year's Symposium, like last year, will have the additional attraction of a Silent Auction as a fundraiser for MUFON.

But in order to have another interesting and profitable auction, we need some interesting items, such as signed UFO books, signed photos, vintage magazines, & artifacts. We hope to also offer lunch with one of the speakers.

If you can donate something—the more rare or unusual the better—contact Tom Deuley, P.O. Box 29, Canutillo, TX 79835; email him at tpdeuley@aol.com, or call him at 915-276-1314. Your help is appreciated.

Director's Message

(Continued from page 2)

Project has resulted in artifacts that are categorized as real UFO physical evidence. Symposium attendees will get to meet Ted and examine these artifacts.

Radio and television star and MUFON State Director for Northern California **Ruben Uriarte** is an expert in Hispanic UFO cases. He recently represented MUFON at the Mexican UFO organization unification meeting that will greatly enhance the reporting of UFOs below the border.

He will present evidence from some of the thousands of UFO incidents in Mexico that never see the light of day in the U.S. news media.

Police officer and TV documentary star **Kenneth Storch** will present the latest report on the ever-growing list of UFO cases reported by police officers worldwide. Police officers are regarded as some of the best observers, investigators, and reporters of crime scenes, and they bring these same skills to UFO reports.

Many of you are familiar with the "UFO Weather Map" posted monthly on the MUFON website at www.mufon.com. It is the brainchild of **Steve Reichmuth** of MUFON Northern California. Steve will use the extensive database that supports those weather maps to bring you a startling view of all the UFO sightings in the year 2005 that will shock those who feel there are few reports these days. UFOs are real and they are here now.

MUFON Utah Co-State Director **Ronald Regehr** will re-visit the 1976 Iranian UFO intercept incident where a general, airline pilots, other military people, and citizens watched in awe as two F-4H Phantom jets chased a UFO near Tehran. The planes suffered near-fatal system failures as they approached the object. Ron has new information in the form of U.S. satellite data verifying the incident. You won't want to miss this presentation.

Author, archive researcher and chairman of the annual Crash-Retrieval Conference in Las Vegas **Ryan S. Wood**

will present a spine-chilling view of the UFO crash evidence. Some people have said that if UFOs actually crash, then there should be more crash evidence than just Roswell and Aztec. Well, there is. Ryan has documented data on more than 75 crashes worldwide in his new book *MAJIC Eyes Only: Earth's Encounters with Extraterrestrial Technology*.

MUFON Illinois State Director **David Marler** has devoted his UFO research to the ever-growing number of large triangular UFO reports.

Stimulated by the huge triangular UFO over southern Illinois in 2000, David has found a shocking correlation of triangular UFO cases worldwide. The evidence indicates that they are not of earth-bound technology.

MUFON Assistant State Director for Delaware **Carl Feindt** has focused his research on water-related UFO cases. He now has more than 900 cases where UFOs enter, are submerged in, or leave the water. He says "airplanes cannot fly like this; therefore we had better examine what is going on."

By showing the well-documented effects these objects have on the water, his presentation will clearly demonstrate that these are real high-tech objects, and they are not ours.

MUFON Field Investigator **Brian Boldman** tired of the huge number of lights-in-the-sky UFO reports and decided to focus on physical evidence cases. It was clear to Brian that one of the most outstanding artifact in UFO cases is a fine white filament left in the wake of unconventional flying objects. It has become known as "angel hair."

He has examined 215 cases documenting angel hair evidence, and for the first time he will share that data at a MUFON symposium.

Position Announcements

Norman Walker, of Tontitown, AR, has accepted the position of State Director for AR. **Ken Bergeron**, of Fayetteville, AR, has accepted the position of Assistant State Director.

MUFON UFO Journal

Western Washington State Director **Larry Childs** has appointed **David McManus** of Ocean Shores, WA, to the position of State Section Director for Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Mason, Kitsap, Pacific, and Wahkiakum counties.

New Lifetime Members

It is a pleasure to recognize **Dianne Hamann**, of Lincoln, CA; **Shirley Fox**, of Fort Myers, FL; and **John Venture**, of Greensburg, PA; as new MUFON Lifetime Members.

We are extremely grateful for this vote of confidence and outstanding level of support for MUFON.

New Field Investigators

Kathleen Marden, Director of Field Investigator Training, has announced that **Stephen J. Alexander** of Port Orange, FL; **Patrick N. Jones** of West Jordan, UT; **Dennis Myers** of Redwood Falls, MN; **Robert Powell** of Austin, TX; and **Ted Robertson** of Ellettsville, IN; have passed the MUFON Field Investigator's Exam and are now MUFON Field Investigators.

All Field Investigator Trainees are urged to self-study the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual* and take the exam.

The manual is available from MUFON Headquarters for \$25 plus \$3.50 p&h in the U.S. Total price for delivery outside the U.S. is \$32.50. It may also be purchased via the Internet at www.mufon.com using PayPal.

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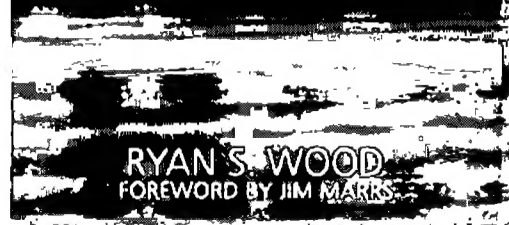
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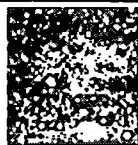
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The Night Sky

By Gavin A. J. McLeod

May Sky

Moon Phases:

First Quarter May 5

Full Moon May 13

Last Quarter May 20

New Moon May 27

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Mars (magnitude 1.5 to 1.6): Moving from Gemini to Cancer. For northern hemisphere observers Mars will stand about 20 degrees high in the W-NW at the end of evening twilight, and will set near 11:30 PM. in the NW.

For southern hemisphere observers Mars will stand nearly 25 degrees high in the NW at the end of evening twilight and will set near 9 PM in the W-NW.

Jupiter (magnitude -2.5): In Libra. For northern hemisphere observers Jupiter will stand nearly 30 degrees high in the SE at the end of evening twilight, transit about 30 degrees high near 11 PM, and will be low in the SW at the beginning of morning twilight.

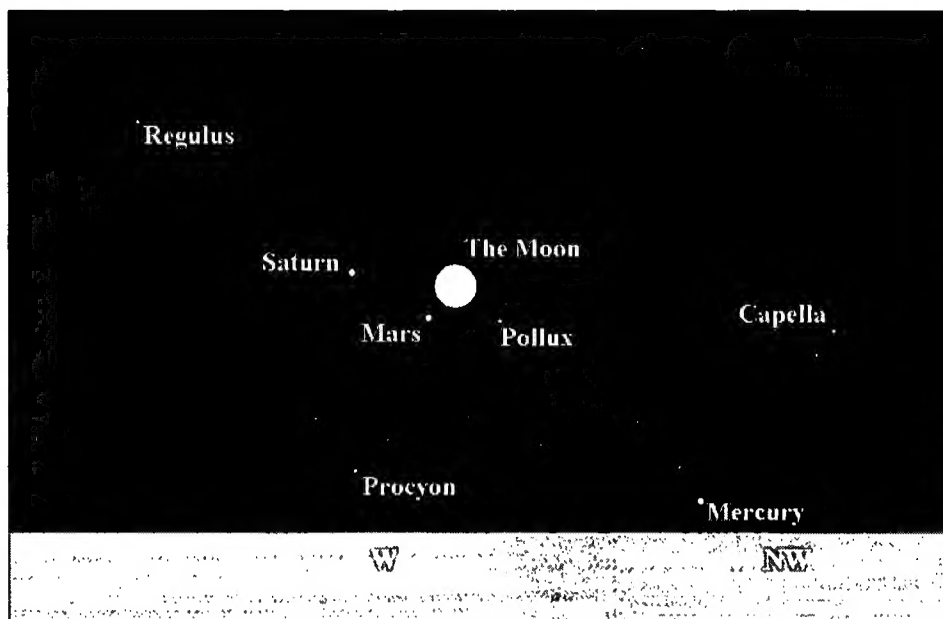
For southern hemisphere observers Jupiter will stand about 25 degrees high in the E at the end of evening twilight, transit about 75 degrees high near 11 PM, and will be very low in the W-SW as morning twilight begins.

Saturn (magnitude 0.3): In Cancer. For northern hemisphere observers Saturn will be low in the W at the end of evening twilight, and set less than 4 hours after the Sun in the W-NW by month's end. The planet's visibility will be diminished compared to April.

Southern hemisphere observers will find Saturn 30 degrees high in the NW at the end of evening twilight at month's end and setting in the W-NW after 9 PM.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Mercury (magnitude -0.5 to -2.1): Moving from Pisces through Aries to Taurus. For northern hemisphere observers Mercury will emerge in evening



The Moon, Saturn, Mars, and Mercury together after dusk on May 30

twilight in the W during the last few days of the month.

For southern hemisphere observers Mercury will become lost in the eastern morning twilight very low in the E. During the last few days of the month Mercury will emerge in the evening twilight in the W.

Venus (magnitude -4.0 to -3.9): In Pisces. For northern hemisphere observers Venus will rise less than 2 hours before the Sun and will be visible only during morning twilight very low in the E.

For southern hemisphere observers Venus will rise more than 3 hours before the Sun and will be about 20 degrees high in the E-NE at the beginning of morning twilight.

Eta Aquarids Meteor Shower:

The moon should not interfere with the viewing of the Eta Aquarids. These meteors that originate from the famous Halley's comet can be seen from the end of April until the middle part of May.

They peak on the 5th of May and can produce around 30 meteors or more per

hour. Viewing will be more favorable in the Southern hemisphere.

Conjunctions and Occultations:

May 2: Mars 4 degrees south of the Moon.

May 11: Spica 0.3 degrees south of the Moon.

May 14: Antares 0.1 degrees north of the Moon.